THE PRINCIPAL

# ACTS

OF THE

## General Assembly

OF THE

# CHURCH

OF

# *SCOTLAND,*

Conveened at *Edinburgh*, the 9th Day of *May* 1751.

*Collected and extracted out of the Records by the Clerk. thereof.*

*EDINBURGH:*
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# THE PRINCIPAL ACTS OF THE General Assembly OF THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND,

Begun at *Edinburgh* upon *Thursday* the 9th Day of *May* 1751, and concluded the 20th Day of the said Month and Year.

## I.

## *The King's Commission to* ALEXANDER *Earl of* Leven *produced, and ordered to be recorded.*

Edinburgh *the 9th Day of* May 1751. *Sess.* 1.

THE General Assembly of this National Church being conveened and constituted, there was produced to them, by the Right Honourable *Alexander* Earl of *Leven*, His MAJESTY's Commission, sealed with the Seal appointed by the Treaty of Union to be kept and used in *Scotland*, in place of the Great Seal of *Scotland*, making and constituting him His Majesty's High Commissioner and Representative in this Assembly, of the same Tenor with the Commission granted

granted to his Lordſhip laſt, and ſeveral preceeding Years; which Commiſſion was publickly read with all due Honour and Reſpect, and appointed to be recorded in the Books of Aſſembly.

## II.

## *The Kings moſt gracious Letter to the General Aſſembly, preſented to them by his Majeſty's Commiſſioner.*

Edinburgh, May 9th 1751. *Seſſ.* 1.

*GEORGE R.*

RIGHT Reverend and Well-beloved, We greet you well. The Zeal, with which you have, upon all Occaſions, ſo ſteadily exerted yourſelves, as well in Support of the Proteſtant Succeſſion, as in the Advancement of True Religion, and Piety; and the Affection, which you have ſo conſtantly expreſs'd for our Perſon and Government, induce Us, moſt readily, to countenance this your Meeting, with our Royal Approbation, and Authority. As we have the firmeſt Dependence upon your employing your utmoſt Endeavours for the inculcating, and encouraging of Virtue, in the beſt, and moſt effectual manner, ſo you may be aſſured of our Reſolution, to preſerve, and protect the Rights and Privileges, of the Church of *Scotland*, as by Law eſtabliſhed.

The repeated Inſtances We have received of the Loyalty, Prudence, Fidelity, and good Conduct of our right Truſty and entirely beloved Couſin *Alexander* Earl of *Leven*, and of his Capacity, and Abilities for the diſcharging of ſo important a Truſt, have engaged Us to fix on him to repreſent Our Perſon again upon this Occaſion. And we doubt not from the Experience, you have had of his Attachment to Us, and our Government, and of his Zeal for the Church of *Scotland*, but that this our Choice will be very acceptable to you.

As the View of your preſent aſſembling is, to promote Religion, and Piety; ſo We rely upon your not permitting any Steps to be taken, (as far as depends on you) but

but such as may tend to produce that desireable Effect: And so, we bid you heartily Farewel.

Given at Our Court at *St. James's*, the Twelfth Day of *April* 1751, in the Twenty-fourth Year of Our Reign.

*By his Majesty's Command,*

HOLIES NEWCASTLE.

## III.

## *The General Assembly's Answer to the King's most gracious Letter.*

*Edinburgh, May* 11*th* 1751, *Sess.* 3.

*May it please your Majesty,*

THE General Assembly of this Church received your Majesty's most gracious Letter with the highest Sentiments of Duty and Gratitude, as became loyal Subjects to the best of Sovereigns.

Your Majesty does us the greatest Honour in taking Notice of our exerting ourselves with Stedfastness in Support of the Protestant Succession in your illustrious House, and the Advancement of true Religion and Piety, and our sincere Affection to your Sacred Person and auspicious Government; and it gives us the greatest Pleasure, that, from these Considerations, your Majesty is induced to countenance our present Meeting with your Royal Approbation and Authority.

Your Majesty's entertaining such honourable Sentiments concerning us, must render us utterly inexcusable, if we did not employ our utmost Endeavours for the inculcating and promoting of Virtue; which, we are sensible, is the proper Duty of our Function as Ministers of the Gospel; in doing so, we may hope for the Approbation of our Great Master in Heaven; and your Majesty's Resolution to preserve and protect the Rights and Privileges of the Church of *Scotland*, as by Law established, gives us the greatest Encouragement to prosecute stedfastly and diligently this great and good Work.

The renewing the Royal Gift of 1000 *l.* for propagating the Knowledge of the Christian Religion in the Highlands and Islands, is a fresh Instance of your Majesty's Regard to that God by whom Kings reign and Princes decree Justice, and endears your Majesty to us, as truly the Defen-

der of the Christian Faith; and we beg Leave to assure your Majesty, that we shall use our utmost Endeavours to manage and apply this your Royal Bounty in such a manner as may best answer the valuable Ends and Purposes for which it was designed, and encourage us to hope for your Majesty's Approbation.

That your Majesty has been pleased to renew your Choice of the Earl of *Leven* to represent your Royal Person in this Assembly, is most agreeable to us; and we consider it as a further Proof of your Majesty's Regard for the Welfare of our Church, his Zeal for your Majesty's Service, his firm Attachment to the Principles of our Church, and his Concern for her Prosperity, as well as his Capacity and Prudence in managing that important Trust, is well known to us, and justly intitles him to the greatest Honour and Respect from us.

As the View of our present Meeting is to promote Religion and Piety, we should reckon ourselves unworthy of the Character we bear as the Ministers of JESUS CHRIST, and the Subjects of so gracious a Sovereign, if we did not keep that great End steadily in our Eye, and guard against every Step that may divert us from it; and your Majesty's Recommendation lays us under the strongest Obligations to attend to it with the greatest Care, and pursue it by such Measures as may tend to the Attainment thereof.

That GOD ALMIGHTY may long preserve your Majesty's most precious Life, make your Crown to flourish on your Head, and your Reign the Security of all the valuable Interests of your Kingdoms, and the Support of the Protestant Churches; that your Sacred Person may be ever under the special Protection of Divine Providence; that GOD may abundantly bless his Royal Highness the Prince of *Wales*, the Princess Dowager of *Wales*, the Duke, the Princesses, and all the Royal Family, that there may ever be one of your illustrious House to sway the Sceptre of these Realms to the latest Ages; and, that after a long and prosperous Reign over a free and happy People, you may at last inherit a Crown of Glory that fadeth not away, are, and shall be the sincere and hearty Prayers of,

*May it please your Majesty,*

*Your Majesty's most faithful, most dutiful, and most loyal Subjects,*

*The Ministers and Elders met in this National Assembly of the Church of* Scotland.

*Signed in our Name, in our Presence, and at our Appointment, by*

JAMES MACKIE, *Moderator.*

*ACT*

## IV.

## *ACT and Resolution concerning Lawiers who are Members of the Court appearing as Procurators to plead in Causes at the Bar of the General Assembly or Commission.*

*Edinburgh, May* 15*th* 1751, *Sess.* 6.

THE General Assembly considering that they have a Title to the Assistance of all their Members as Judges in all Causes brought before them, they being expresly commissioned by their Constituents to consult, vote, and determine in all Matters that shall come before the Assembly; as also, that those who are appointed Members of the Commission of the General Assembly, are obliged by that Appointment to concur in cognoscing and determining in every Matter referred to them, do therefore resolve, enact, and declare, That, in Time-coming, none who are constituent Members of the Court shall act as Council or Procurators in any Causes which come before the Assemblys or Commissions thereof.

## V.

## *Commission to some Ministers and Ruling Elders for Reformation of the Highlands and Islands, and for managing his Majesty's Royal Bounty for that End.*

*Edinburgh*, 18th *May* 1751, *Sess.* 9.

THE General Assembly, do hereby nominate, commissionate and appoint the Reverend Mr. *James Mackie*, Minister of the Gospel at *St. Ninians*, their Moderator; Mr. *Thomas Tullideph*, Principal of *St. Leonards* College at *St. Andrews*; Mr. *Neil Campbell* Principal of the College of *Glasgow*; Mr. *William*

*liam Wiſhart* Principal of the College of *Edinburgh*; Mr. *John Lumſden* Profeſſor of Divinity in the King's College of *Aberdeen*; Mr. *John Gowdie* Profeſſor of Divinity in the Univerſity of *Edinburgh*; Mr. *Matthew Stewart* Profeſſor of Mathematicks therein; Mr. *William Guſthart* at *Edinburgh*, Mr. *Robert Wallace* there, Mr. *James Wetherſpoon* at *Feſter*, his Majeſty's Chaplains; Maſters *James Walker* at *Canongate*, *James Nisbet* at *Edinburgh*, *John Guthrie* at *Ratho*, *John Matthiſon* at *Edinburgh*, *George Logan* there, *James Bannatyne* there, *George Fordice* at *Cenſorphine*, *Robert Kinloch* at *Edinburgh*, *John Glen* there, *Thomas Pitcairn* at *Weſtkirk*, *James Steuenſon* at *Edinburgh*, *Patrick Cuming* there, *George Lindſay* at *North Leith*, *Robert Hamilton* at *Edinburgh*, *George Wiſhart* there, *William Aitken* at *South-Leith*, *Alexander Webſter* at *Edinburgh*, *Frederick Carmichael* there, *Gilbert Hamilton* at *Cramond*, *William Bennet* at *Duddingston*, *Robert Walker* at *South-Leith*, *George Kay* at *Weſt-Kirk*, *David Moubray* at *Currie*, *John Jardine* at *Edinburgh*, *Hugh Blair* at *Canongate*, *Alexander Bryce* at *Kirknewton*, *John Hyndman* at *Collington*, *James Naſmith* at *Dalmenie*, *John Adam* at *Falkirk*, *James Paton* at *Carington*, *Ebenezer Brown* at *Pennycook*, *Donald Fraſer* at *Kilearnan*, *Colin MacKenzie* at *Fodderty*, *Patrick Nicolſon* at *Kiltarlaty*, *William Innes* at *Skene*, *James Lautie* at *Fordite*, *Alexander Stewart* at *Grange*, *Robert Mill* at *Speymouth*, *James Ogilvie* at *Aberdeen*, *James Thomſon* at *Dumfermline*, *Robert Bryden* at *Coldingham*, *Alexander Orr* at *Hoddam*, *John Maxwell* at *Achindore*, *John Ballingall* at *Cupar*, *William Steel* at *Dalſerf*, *John MacLea* at *Lochgoilhead*, *Archibald Lambie* at *Kilmartine*, *Æneas MacAulay* at *Gairloch*, *Alexander Chalmers* at *Cairnie*, *John Clark* at *Stornavoy*, *John MacAlpine* at *Campbeltoun*, *James Stewart* at *Kingarth*, *Daniel Campbell* at *North Knapdale*, *Charles Bannatyne* in *Arran*, *John MacLean* in *Mull*, *Robert Robertſon* at *Kirkmichael*, *Adam Fergusſon* at *Mouline*, *David Black* at *Perth*, *Thomas Clephan* at *Newtyld*, *George Blair* at *Edziel*, *James Spankie* at *Coupar* in *Angus*, *David Duncan* at *Stow*, *Alexander Duncan* at *Smelholm*, *John Smith* at *Kincardine*, *Robert Drummond* at *Auchterarder*, *Thomas Donaldſon* at *Liff*, *Francis Robertſon* at *Clyne*, *John Sutherland* at *Golſpie*, Miniſters; His Grace *James* Duke of *Athole*, *Archibald* Duke of *Argyle*, the Moſt Honourable the Marquis of *Lothian*, the Right Honourable the Earl of *Leven*, the Right Honourable the Lord *Somerville*, the Right Honourable *Robert Dundaſs* of *Arniſton*, Eſq; Lord Preſident of the Court of Seſſion, the Right Honourable *William Grant* of *Preſtongrange*, his Majeſty's Advocate,

*Charles*

*Charles Erskine* of *Tinwald*, Esq; Lord Justice Clerk, *Hew Dalrymple* of *Drumore*, Esq; *Patrick Grant* of *Elchies*, Esq; *John Sinclair* of *Murkle*, Esq; *Patrick Boyle* of *Shewalton*, Esq; four of the Senators of the College of Justice, *George Drummond*, Esq; Lord Provost of *Edinburgh*, Mr. *Robert Pringle* Advocate, Mr. *Andrew Pringle* Advocate, Mr. *Patrick Haldane* of *Bearcrofts*, one of his Majesty's Solicitors, *John Robertson* of *Tullibelton*, Mr. *John Craigie* Stewart-depute of *Zetland*, Mr. *Alexander Hume* of *Eccles*, one of his Majesty's Solicitors, *Colin Campbell* of *Kilbride*, Esq; one of the Commissioners of his Majesty's Customs, Sir *John Clark of Pennycook*, one of the Barons of Exchequer, Sir *Archibald Grant* of *Monymusk*, Baronet, the Right Honourable the Lord *Napier*, the Honourable *William* Master of *Ross*, *Alexander Mac-Millan* of *Dunmore*, Writer to the Signet, *Hector Mac-Lean* of *Torloisk*, Mr. *Archibald Campbell* of *Succoth*, *Duncan Campbell* of *South-hall*, Mr. *David Dalrymple* Advocate, Procurator for the Church, *Robert MacIntosh* Agent for the Church, *John Baillie* Writer to the Signet, *John Maul* of *Inverkeilor*, one of the Barons of Exchequer, Mr. *James Erskine* Advocate, Mr. *Gilbert Elliot* younger of *Minto* Advocate, *John Osburn*, Esq; late Provost of *Edinburgh*, Mr. *James Stewart* late Baillie of *Edinburgh*, Mr. *Joseph Williamson* Advocate, Mr. *James Davidson* of *Haltree*, *Albert Monro* of *Coul*, Mr. *John Stewart* of *Allanbank* Advocate, *John Paton* Bookseller in *Edinburgh*, *William Tod* Merchant, and one of the Bailies of *Edinburgh*, Ruling Elders; to be a Committee of this Assembly, for Reformation of the Highlands and Islands of *Scotland*, for promoting the Knowledge of true Religion, suppressing of Popery and Profaneness, and for managing the Royal Bounty given for those Ends, according to, and in Terms of his Majesty's Grant to this Assembly, and the fifth Act of last Assembly, and whole Acts therein mentioned, and in Acts formerly made and referred to, in the Commissions granted to former Committees, any five of the above-named Persons are declared to be a *Quorum*, whereof three to be Ministers: But it is hereby appointed, That, at the quarterly Meeting of the said Committee, when the Scheme or Establishment of Missionaries, for the Year ensuing, shall be approved and determined, nine Ministers and five Ruling Elders, at least, shall be a *Quorum*; and the said Committee are appointed to have their Meetings at *Edinburgh*, in the Hall of the Society in *Scotland* for propagating Christian Knowledge, the last *Thursday* of every Month, at Three of the Clock After-noon, and also the first lawful Day after the Adjournment of the four stated Diets of the Commission of the General Assembly, at Ten of the Clock Forenoon, except when it falls to be upon

*Friday* or *Saturday*, and then the Meeting is to be upon *Monday* next thereafter, at the ſaid Hour; with Power to the ſaid Committee to adjourn themſelves to ſuch Times and Places as they ſhall find moſt needful and convenient; and they are to keep a Correſpondence with the Commiſſion of the General Aſſembly, and the Society for propagating Chriſtian Knowledge, and their Committee of Directors, and take their Advice and Aſſiſtance. And the General Aſſembly do, by theſe Preſents, nominate and appoint the ſaid Mr. *David Dalrymple* Advocate, Procurator for the Church, to be Receiver of the foreſaid Royal Bounty, and to pay out of the ſame as he ſhall be directed and ordered by the ſaid Committee, and according to their Rules. And the ſaid Committee are appointed to examine the Accompts of the Diſtribution of the Royal Bounty, and lay the ſame before the Lords Commiſſioners of his Majeſty's Treaſury, or the Barons of his Majeſty's Court of Exchequer, and to report their Diligence to the General Aſſembly, to whom they are to be accountable. And it is agreed, that no Perſon once employed, and inſert in the Scheme, ſhall be ſtruck out thereof for that Year, but by the *Quorum* of at leaſt nine Miniſters and five Ruling Elders: And in caſe any Complaint ſhall be made againſt any of them on the Scheme, it ſhall not be determined at the firſt ordinary Meeting that the ſame is offered, but ſhall ly on the Table till another Meeting; and, in the mean Time, the Perſon complained of, and the Presbytery of the Bounds wherein he officiates, ſhall be acquainted of ſuch Complaint, and thoſe concerned be required to ſend to the ſaid Committee a juſt Account of the Matter, againſt their next Meeting. And it is further appointed, That, after the yearly Scheme of Miſſionaries on the Royal Bounty is ſettled in Manner above directed, and Notice thereof given by Letters to the Presbyteries concerned, ſuch Presbyteries ſhall ſend up to the ſaid Committee their Anſwers to theſe Letters, at fartheſt, with their Commiſſioners to the General Aſſembly, if the ſame be not done ſooner; and that the Committee, at their Meeting in *May*, ſhall name a Sub-committee of their Number, for preparing the next Year's Scheme, who are to lay their Draught thereof before a ſubſequent Meeting.

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## VI.

## *Commission to some Ministers and Ruling Elders for discussing Affairs referred to them.*

*Edinburgh, May* 18th, 1751. *Sess.* 9th.

THE General Assembly, considering that there are divers Affairs which they cannot overtake, do hereby nominate, commissionate and appoint the Reverend Mr. *James Mackie* Minister of the Gospel at *St. Ninians*, their Moderator; and from the Presbytery of *Dunse*, Mr. *John Home* at *Greenlaw*, Mr. *Adam Dickson* at *Dunse*, Ministers; the Right Hon. the Earl of *Marchmont*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Chirnside*, Mr. *Robert Bryden* at *Coldingham*, Mr. *James Landreth* at *Simprin*, Mr. *James Allan* at *Eyemouth*, Ministers; Mr. *John Stewart* younger of *Allanbank*, Advocate, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Kelso*, Mr. *George Redpath* at *Stitchel*, Mr. *Cornelius Lundie* at *Kelso*, Ministers; Mr. *Charles Binning* of *Pilmuir*, Advocate, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Jedburgh*, Mr. *John Johnston* at *Eckford*, Mr. *George Bruce* at *Minto*, Mr. *James Winthester* at *Jedburgh*, Ministers, the most Honourable the Marquis of *Lothian*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Earlstoun* Mr. *John Goldie* at *Earlstoun*, Mr. *David Duncan* at *Stow*, Ministers, *Thomas Halyburton* of *Newmains* Ruling Elder: Burgh of *Lauder*, Mr. *William Binning* Advocate: From the Presbytery of *Selkirk*, Mr. *James Brown* at *Melrose*, Mr. *Andrew Walker* at *Ettrick*, Ministers; Mr. *Andrew Pringle* Advocate, Ruling Elder: Burgh of *Selkirk*, Dr. *Andrew Plummer* Physician: From the Presbytery of *Annan*, Mr. *Alexander Orr* at *Hoddam*, Mr. *John Laurie* at *Middlebee*, Ministers; Mr. *Robert Dalrymple* of *Priestside*, Writer to the Signet, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Langholm*, Mr. *John Dickie* at *Langholm*, Mr. *Simon Haliburton* at *Castletoun*, Ministers; *Archibald Little* Merchant in *Langholm*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Lochmaben*, Mr. *William Young* at *Hutton*, Mr. *Edward MacWhinnie* at *Applegirth*, Mr. *Edward Johnston* at *Moffat*, Ministers; Mr. *John Johnston* of *Courans*, Ruling Elder: Burgh of *Lochmaben*, Mr. *James Erskine*, Advocate: From the Presbytery of *Penpont*, Mr. *John Lawson* at *Closeburn*, Mr. *Alexander Bain* at *Keir*, Ministers; *John Welsh* in *Morton-mains*, Ruling Elder: From the

the Presbytery of *Dumfries*, Mr. *Robert Wight* at *Dumfries*, Mr. *Thomas MacKinnel* at *Urr*, Mr. *Archibald Lawson* at *Kirkmahoe*, Ministers; the Right Honourable *Charles Erskine* of *Tinwald*, Lord Justice Clerk, Ruling Elder: Burgh of *Dumfries*, Provost *George Bell*: From the Presbytery of *Kirkcudbright*, Mr. *Robert Thomson* at *Girton*, Mr. *Alexander Dick* at *Dalry*, Mr. *John Crockat* at *Parton*, Ministers; *David MacGuffog* in *Craig*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Wigton*, Mr. *Patrick Anderson* at *Penningham*, Mr. *Robert Walker* at *Mochrum*, Ministers; *Patrick Agnew* of *Dalreagle*, Esq; Ruling Elder: Burgh of *Whithorn*, Mr. *Alexander Martine* of *Little Airies*, Doctor of Medicine: From the Presbytery of *Stranraver*, Mr. *Andrew Dalziel* at *Stonykirk*, Mr. *George Blair* at *Stranraver*, Ministers; Mr. *Andrew MacDowal* Advocate, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Air*, Mr. *John Hunter* at *Air*, Mr. *Thomas Walker* at *Dundonald*, Mr. *Richard Cunningham* at *Symingtoun*, Mr. *John Campbell* at *Riccartoun*, Mr. *Robert Finlay* at *Galstaun*, Ministers; Mr. *David Dalrymple* Advocate, Procurator for the Church, and *William Wallace* of *Cairnhill* Advocate, Ruling Elders: From the Presbytery of *Irvine*, Mr. *Alexander Smith* at *Cambray*, Mr. *John Witherspoon* at *Beith*, Mr. *Patrick Wallace* at *Largs*, Ministers; *John Murchland* Merchant in *Kilmarnock*, Ruling Elder: Burgh of *Irvine*, the Hon. *Patrick Boyle* of *Shewaltoun*, one of the Senators of the College of Justice: From the Presbytery of *Paisley*, Mr. *Robert Patoun* at *Renfrew*, Mr. *John Shaw* at *Greenock*, Mr. *John Couper* at *Lochwinnoch*, Ministers; the Honourable the Master of *Ross*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Hamiltoun*, Mr. *Richard Henderson* at *Blantyre*, Mr. *William Steel* at *Dalserf*, Mr. *David Connel* at *Kilbride*, Ministers; Mr. *William Gilmore* Preacher of the Gospel in *Strathaven*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Lanark*, Mr. *Robert Jack* at *Carnwath*, Mr. *William Miller junior*, at *Crawfurd-John*, Mr. *Robert Dick* at *Lanark*, Ministers; *James White* of *Over-stockbridge*, Esq; Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Glasgow*, Mr. *James Robe* at *Kilsyth*, Mr. *Laurence Hill* at the Barony of *Glasgow*, Mr. *James Stirling* at *Glasgow*, Ministers; *Thomas Napier* late Bailie of *Glasgow*, Ruling Elder: City of *Glasgow*, *John Murdoch*, Esq; present Provost thereof: University of *Glasgow*, Mr. *Neil Campbell* Principal thereof: From the Presbytery of *Dumbarton*, Mr. *John Edmonston* at *Cardross*, Mr. *George Sinclair* at *Balfron*, Mr. *Andrew Duncanson* at *Roseneath*, Ministers; Lieutenant General *Campbell* of *Mammore*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Dunoon*, Mr. *John MacLea* at *Lochgoilhead*, Mr. *James Stewart* at *Kingarth*, Ministers;

*Duncan*

*Duncan Campbell* of *South-hall*, Esq; Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Kintyre*, Mr. *John Mac Alpine* at *Campbeltoun*, Mr. *Charles Bannatyne* in *Arran*, Ministers; Mr. *Alexander MacMillan* of *Dunmore*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Inverary*, Mr. *Archibald Lambie* at *Kilmartine*, Mr. *Donald Campbell* at *North-knapdale*, Ministers; *Colin Campbell* of *Kilbride*, Esq; one of the Commissioners of his Majesty's Customs, Ruling Elder: Burgh of *Inverary*, Mr. *John Campbell* of *Limefield*: From the Presbytery of *Lorn*, Mr. *James Campbell* at *Kilmore*, Mr. *Alexander MacFarlane* at *Kilmivver*, Ministers; *James Campbell* of *Tosts*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Mull*, Mr. *Lauchlan Campbell* at *Ardnamurchan*, Mr. *Archibald MacNeil* at *Morvern*, Ministers; *Hector MacLean* of *Torloisk*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Dunkeld*, Mr. *Robert Robertson* at *Kirkmichael*, Mr. *Adam Ferguson* at *Mouline*, Mr. *Patrick Meek* at *Rattray*, Mr. *James Campbell* at *Dull*, Ministers; *John Campbell* of *Achalader*, *Robert MacIntosh* Agent for the Church, Ruling Elders: From the Presbytery of *Perth*, Mr. *Thomas Ranken* at *Aberdalgie*, Mr. *David Black* at *Perth*, Mr. *John Glen* at *Forgandonnie*, Mr. *Robert Bryce* at *Dron*, Ministers; *Adam Freer* of *Easendy*, *John Anderson* of *Middleridge*, Ruling Elders: Burgh of *Perth*, *John Robertson* of *Tullibelton*, Esq; present Provost thereof: From the Presbytery of *Stirling*, Mr. *Daniel MacQueen* at *Stirling*, Mr. *William Forbes* at *Airth*, Ministers; Mr. *Thomas Dundas* of *Quarrel*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Auchterarder*, Mr. *James Porteous* at *Monivard*, Mr. *Robert Drummond* at *Auchterarder*, Mr. *Alexander Murray* at *Fowlis*, Ministers; *James Fenton* of *Milearn*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Dumblane*, Mr. *John Smith* at *Kincardine*, Mr. *Alexander Steedman* at *Tillicultry*, Ministers; Sir *James Campbell* of *Arberuchil*, Bart. Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Dumfermline*, Mr. *James Thomson* at *Dumfermline*, Mr. *David Hunter* at *Saline*, Mr. *John Spence* at *Orwell*, Ministers; *Colin Angus* Merchant in *Limekills*, Ruling Elder: Burgh of *Dumfermline*, *Andrew Dickie* Merchant in *Dumfermline*: From the Presbytery of *Kirkaldy*, Mr. *John Currie* at *Kinglassie*, Mr. *Robert Balfour* at *Balingry*, Mr. *George Preston* at *Markinch*, Ministers; Mr. *John Dundas* of *Bogy*, Ruling Elder: Burgh of *Kirkaldy*, Doctor *Robert Hay* of *Struie*: Burgh of *Dysert*, Doctor *Robert White* of *Bennochie*: Burgh of *Kinghorn*, Mr. *Gilbert Elliot* of *Lochgelly* Advocate: Burgh of *Burntisland*, Mr. *Thomas Braid*, Preacher of the Gospel at *Bannochie*: From the Presbytery of *Coupar*, Mr. *John Ballingall* at *Coupar*, Mr. *Hugh Glass* at *Kettle*, Mr. *Thomas Stark* at *Balmerino*, Mr. *Robert Wright* at *Newburgh*, Ministers; the Right Honourable the Earl of

*Leven*, Mr. *Andrew Ballingall* Merchant in *Strathmiglo*, Ruling Elders: Burgh of *Cupar*, Mr. *James Leslie* of *Mildeans* Advocate, present Provost thereof: From the Presbytery of *St. Andrews*, Mr. *William Dalgliesh* at *Ferrypartoncraig*, Mr. *Thomas Tullideph*, Principal of the United College of *St. Salvator* and *St. Leonard*, in the University of *St. Andrews*, Mr *James Smith* at *Newburn*, Mr. *John Nairn* at *Anstruther-Easter*, Ministers; Dr. *John Scot* of *Coats*, Dr. *George Haddow* Professor of Hebrew in the New College of *St. Andrews*, Ruling Elders: University of *St. Andrews*, Mr. *David Young* Professor of Philosophy therein: From the Presbytery of *Meigle*, Mr. *Thomas Clephan* at *Newtyld*, Mr. *William Arthur* at *Glenyla*, Mr. *James Spankie* at *Cupar* of *Angus*, Ministers; Mr. *Patrick Alison* at *Newhall*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Forfar*, Mr. *John Weath* at *Tannadyce*, Mr. *Andrew Mitchel* at *Aberlemno*, Ministers; *James Carnegie* of *Finhaven*, Esq; Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Dundee*, Mr. *James Anderson* at *Lundie* and *Fowlis*, Mr. *George Marr* at *Murrose*, Mr. *James Miln* at *Kinaird*, Ministers; *Robert Pitcairn* Writer in *Dundee*, Ruling Elder: Burgh of *Dundee*, *James Gourlay* Glover there: From the Presbytery of *Aberbrothwick*, Mr. *William Bell* at *Aberbrothwick*, Mr. *Thomas Matthison* at *Inverkeillor*, Ministers; the Honourable Mr. *John Maule* of *Inverkillor*, one of his Majesty's Barons of Exchequer, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Brichen*, Mr. *David Ferguson* at *Farnwall*, Mr. *George Blair* at *Edziel*, Mr. *Alexander Ross* at *Lochlee*, Ministers; *Robert Scot* of *Duninald* Esquire Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Fordoun* Mr. *Andrew Thomson* at *Lawrence-Kirk*, Mr *William Forbes* at *Fordoun*, Mr. *Alexander Forbes* at *Fettereso*, Ministers; *Arthur Straiton* of *Kirkside*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Aberdeen*, Mr. *James Howie* at *Newhills*, Mr. *James Ogilvie* at *Aberdeen*, Mr. *Samuel Coupland* at *Fintry*, Mr. *William Innes* at *Skeen*, Ministers; the Right Honourable *William Grant* of *Prestongrange*, Esq; his Majesty's Advocate, Provost *William Chalmers* Merchant in *Aberdeen*, Ruling Elders: King's College of *Aberdeen*, Mr. *John Lumisden* Professor of Divinity therein. Marishal College Mr. *Robert Pollock* Professor of Divinity therein. From the Presbytery of *Kincardinoneil*, Mr. *William MacKenzie* at *Glenmuck*, Mr. *Murdo MacLennan* at *Crathie*, Mr. *Francis Downie* at *Lumphannan*, Ministers; Sir *Arthur Forbes* of *Craigievar* Baronet, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of *Alford*, Mr *Walter Syme* at *Tillinestle*, Mr. *Theodore Gordon* at *Kinnethmont*, Mr. *John Maxwell* at *Achindore*, Ministers; *Alexander Redford* Merchant in *Clat*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Ellon*, Mr. *William Hay* at *Cruden*, Mr. *Alexander Knols* at

*Meth-*

*Methlick*, Ministers; *George Clerk* in *Slains*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Garioch*, Mr. *Alexander Gordon* at *Kintore*, Mr. *John Licklie* at *Old-Meldrum*, Mr. *Thomas Shepherd* at *Bourty*, Ministers; the Right Honourable *Hugh Dalrymple* of *Drumore*, one of the Senators of the College of Justice, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Deer*, Mr. *Robert Garden* at *St. Fergus*, Mr. *John Brown* at *Longside*, Mr. *John Smith* at *Strichen*, Ministers; the Right Honourable the Lord *Strichen*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Turreff*, Mr. *James Wilson* at *Gamrie*, Mr. *William Moir* at *Fyvie*, Ministers; *George Ironside* in the Parish of *Alvah*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Fordice*, Mr. *James Lautie* at *Fordice*, Mr. *James Ogilvie* at *Ordiquhil*, Ministers; Mr. *Robert Pringle* Advocate Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Strathbogie*, Mr. *Alexander Chalmers* at *Glass*, Mr. *Alexander Stewart* at *Grange*, Ministers; *James Smith* in *Whitehill*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Aberlour*, Mr. *George Grant* at *Boharm*, Mr. *James Gray* at *Rothes*, Ministers; *Thomas Grant* of *Achoynanie* Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Abernethy*, Mr. *William Grant* at *Abernethy*, Mr. *George Grant* at *Kirkmichael* Ministers; Mr. *John Grant* younger of *Elchies* Advocate, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Elgin*, Mr. *Robert Mill* at *Speymouth*, Mr. *Alexander Murray* at *Duffus*, Ministers; *Joseph Brodie* of *Milltoun* Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Forress*, Mr. *Robert Dalrymple* at *Dollas*, Mr. *Robert Logan* at *Rafford*, Ministers; *James Duncan* in *Forress* Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Inverness*, Mr. *Patrick Nicolson* at *Kiltarlaty*, Mr. *Archibald Bannatyne* at *Dores*, Ministers; *John Fraser* Provost of *Inverness* Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Chanonrie*, Mr. *Donald Fraser* at *Kilearnan*, Mr. *Hector Macphail* at *Cullicudden*, Ministers, *Alexander Gordon* of *Ardoch* Ruling Elder; From the Presbytery of *Taine*, Mr. *Patrick Grant* at *Logie-Easter*, Mr. *George Balfour* at *Tarbet*, Ministers; *William Baillie* of *Rosehall* Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Dingwall*, Mr. *Colin MacKenzie* at *Fodderty*, Mr. *Patrick Grant* at *Urray*, Ministers; *Albert Monro* of *Coul*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Abertarph*, Mr. *Duncan MacPherson* at *Laggan*, Mr. *William Grant* at *Kilmanivaig*, Ministers; Sir *Archibald Grant* of *Monymusk* Baronet Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Skye*, Mr. *John MacPherson* at *Slait*, Mr. *John MacLeod* at *Kilmuir*, Ministers: From the Presbytery of *Lewis*, Mr. *John Clark* at *Stornoway*, Mr. *Colin MacKenzie* at *Lochs*, Ministers; *John Baillie* Writer to the Signet Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Vist*, Mr. *John Macauly* at South *Vist*, Mr. *Donald Macleod* at North *Vist* Ministers: From the Presbytery

Presbytery of *Gairloch*, Mr. *Æneas Sage* at *Lochcarron*, Mr. *Æneas Mac Auly* at *Gairloch* Miniſters; *Alexander Matthiſon* in *Achnandarroch* Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Dornoch*, Mr. *Francis Robertſon* at *Clyne*, Mr. *John Sutherland* at *Golſpie*, Miniſters; *Robert Monro* of *Blairich* Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Tong*, Mr. *Walter Roſs* at *Tong*, Mr. *John Monro* at *Edrachillis*, Miniſters, Captain George *Mackay* of *Skibo*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Caithneſs*, Mr. *John Sinclair* at *Wattin*, Mr. *Alexander Pope* at *Reay*, Miniſters; Mr. *William Hallawel*, Preacher of the Goſpel, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Kirkwall*, Mr. *John Ballantyne* at *Burray*, Mr. *John Yule* at *Kirkwall*, Miniſters: From the Presbytery of *Cairſton*, Mr. *Edward Irvine* at *Walls*, Mr. *James Tyrie* at *Stromneſs* Miniſters; Mr. *Andrew Roſs*, Factor for the Earl of *Morton*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Northiſles*, Mr. *Andrew Cowan* at *Weſtray*, Mr. *Matthew Cleghorn* at *Rowſay*, Miniſters; *Jerom Deniſton* of *Noutland* Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Zetland*, Mr. *William Archibald* at *Viſt*, Mr. *William Mitchel* at *Tingwall* Miniſters; Mr. *John Craigie* Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Edinburgh*, Mr. *James Walker* at *Canongate*, Mr. *George Logan* at *Edinburgh*, Mr. *George Lindſay* at *North-leith*, Mr. *Robert Walker* at *South-leith*, Mr. *John Jardine* at *Edinburgh*, Mr. *Hugh Blair* at *Canongate*, Miniſters; the Right Honourable *Robert Dundas* of *Arniſtoun* Eſquire, Lord Preſident of the Court of Seſſion, Mr. *James Balfour* of *Pilrig*, Mr. *Thomas Boyes* Writer in *Edinburgh*, Ruling Elders: City of *Edinburgh*, *George Drummond* Eſquire, preſent Lord Provoſt thereof, *James Ker* Deacon Conveener of the Trades thereof: Univerſity of *Edinburgh*, Doctor *William Wiſhart* Principal thereof: Church of *Campvere*, Mr. *James Yair* Miniſter; *Archibald Mac Aulay* Eſquire, Lord Conſervator of the *Scots* Privileges therein: From the Presbytery of *Linlithgow*, Mr. *James Naſmith* at *Dalmeny*, Mr. *Andrew Gloag* at Weſt *Calder*, Mr. *John Adams* at *Falkirk*, Mr. *Patrick Baillie* at *Borrowſtounneſs* Miniſters; Mr. *Patrick Haldane* of *Bearcrofts*, one of his Majeſty's Sollicitors, Mr. *Joſeph Williamſon* of *Foxhall*, Advocate, Ruling Elders: Burgh of *Linlithgow*, Mr. *James Dundas* of *Philpſtoun* Advocate: From the Presbytery of *Biggar*, Mr. *John Buchanan* at *Covingtoun*, Mr. *Bernard Haldane* at *Glenholm* Miniſters; Mr. *Archibald Bertram* younger of *Nisbet* Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Peebles*, Mr. *John Baird* at *Stobo*, Mr. *William Anderſon* at *Manner*, Miniſters; *John Welch* in Upper *Minzean* Ruling Elder: Burgh of *Peebles*, *Francis Gibſon* late Provoſt thereof: From the Presbytery of *Dalkeith*, Mr. *James Paton* at *Primroſe*,

*Primrose*, Mr. *Patrick Simpson* at *Falla*, Mr. *Ebenezer Brown* at *Pennycook*, Ministers; Mr. *Robert Dundas* younger of *Arnistoun* Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Haddingtoun*, Mr. *John Barclay* at *Morham*, Mr. *William Robertson* at *Gladsmuir*, Mr. *John Home* at *Athelstonford*, Ministers; Sir *Robert Sinclair* of *Stevenson* Ruling Elder: Burgh of *Haddingtoun*, Mr. *William Law* of *Elvingstoun* Advocate, Burgh of *North-berwick*, Mr. *John Buchan* younger of *Lethem*: From the Presbytery of *Dumbar*, Mr. *Matthew Reid* at *Prestonkirk*, Mr. *Abraham Home* at *Whitinghame*, Ministers; Mr. *Hamilton* Surgeon in *Dumbar* Ruling Elder: Burgh of *Dumbar* *Alexander Home* of *Eccles* Esquire, one of his Majesty's Sollicitors, with his Grace *James* Duke of *Athole*, His Grace *Archibald* Duke of *Argyle*, the most Honourable *John* Marquis of *Tweddale*, the Right Honourable *James* Earl of *Morton*, the Right Honourable Sir *Gilbert Elliot* of *Minto*, Mr. *Patrick Grant* of *Elchies*, Mr. *John Sinclair* of *Murkle*, three of the Senators of the College of Justice, Sir *John Clerk* of *Pennycook*, one of the Barons of Exchequer, Ruling Elders, to be Commissioners of this General Assembly, to the Effects after-mentioned, with Power to the said Commissioners, or their *Quorum*, which is hereby declared to be any Thirty-one of the said Commissioners, whereof Twenty-one are always to be Ministers, to meet and conveen within the Assembly-house at *Edinburgh*, the first Day after the Dissolution of this Assembly, at Ten of the Clock in the Forenoon, and thereafter the first *Wednesday* of *August*, and second *Wednesdays* of *November* and *March* next to come, and oftner, when and where they shall think fit and convenient; with Power to the said Commissioners to chuse their own Moderator: And likeways the General Assembly fully impowers their said Commissioners, or their *Quorum* above-mentioned, to cognosce and finally determine, as they shall see Cause, in every Matter referred, or that shall be referred to them, by any Act or Order of this Assembly, and to do every thing contained in, and conform to the Instructions given, or to be given by this Assembly; and to advert to the Interest of the Church on every Occasion, that the Church, and present Establishment thereof, do not suffer, or sustain any Prejudice which they can prevent, as they will be answerable: Providing always, that this general Clause be not extended to particular Affairs, or Processes before Synods or Presbyteries, that are not of universal Concern to, or Influence upon the whole Church. And it is hereby appointed, That no private Processes be determined, except at the four stated Diets; and what shall be determined at one Diet of the Commission, with relation to private Causes, shall be unalterable

by any other Diet thereof, and ſhall ſtand and continue in Force 'till diſapproven by the General Aſſembly; and the General Aſſembly renews the Inſtructions given by the General Aſſembly in the Year One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventeen, to their Commiſſion, and appoints the ſame to ſtand in full Force, as Inſtructions to the Commiſſioners before named, and to be obſerved by them in all Points, as if the ſame were ſpecially here inſert: And that they inquire into the publiſhing and ſpreading of Books and Pamphlets, tending towards the promoting of Opinions of whatever Kind, inconſiſtent with our *Confeſſion of Faith*; and that the Recommenders of ſuch Books or Pamphlets, or the Errors therein contained, whether by Word, Writ, or Print, be called before the ſaid Commiſſion to anſwer for the ſame. And further, the ſaid Commiſſion is hereby impowered to receive any References and Appeals that ſhall be made to them from Synods, in Matters of Doctrine, and ripen ſuch Affairs for the General Aſſembly, and to contribute what they can to the ſuppreſſing of Vice and Immorality; and give all needful Advice and Aſſiſtance to Synods and Presbyteries, upon Application to them for that End: Likeways to take care that the Impreſſions of the *Holy Scriptures*, the *Confeſſion of Faith*, and *Catechiſms*, and ſuch Books as are authoriſed by this Church, relating to the Doctrine, Worſhip, Diſcipline and Government thereof, be correct, and give Directions about printing the ſame. And the ſaid Commiſſion are appointed and impowered to keep a Correſpondence with the Committee for Reformation of the *Highlands* and *Iſlands*, for ſuppreſſing Popery and Superſtition, and for promoting the Knowledge of true Religion, and carrying on a Reformation in theſe Parts, and give Aſſiſtance and Concurrence therein; and, if Need be, to apply to the Government for a proper Remedy and ſpeedy Redreſs. And the ſaid Commiſſioners are hereby ſtrictly prohibited and diſcharged to meddle in any other Matters than what are committed and referred to them, as abovementioned: And, in all their Actings, they are to proceed according to the Acts and Conſtitution of this Church, and to do nothing contrary thereto, or to the Prejudice of the ſame; declaring, that in, and for all their Actings, they ſhall be accountable to, and cenſurable by the next General Aſſembly, as they ſhall ſee Cauſe: And this Commiſſion is to continue and endure until another Commiſſion be appointed; and Members are required to attend the Diets of the ſaid Commiſſion, and Abſents therefrom ordered to be noticed, according to the 17th Act of the General Aſſembly, held in the Year One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſix; and for the better ſecuring of a *Quorum*, and Attendance of Members on the Commiſſion, the General Aſſembly prohibits the Presbytery of *Edinburgh*,

or any other Presbytery within twelve Miles thereof, to meet any of the Days or Weeks appointed for the Meeting of this Commiſſion; and ſuch of the Members of theſe Presbyteries as are on the Commiſſion, are required, all of them, to give Attendance on the Diets thereof; and the Presbyteries at a greater Diſtance, who have four or more Members on the Commiſſion, are to take Care that at leaſt two of them attend each Diet of the ſame; and the Aſſembly appoint their Commiſſion, at their firſt Meeting, to diſcuſs as many of the Cauſes and Queſtions, relative to the Settlement of vacant Churches, which are, or ſhall be referred to them by the Aſſembly, as they can overtake. And it is further provided, That when any Presbytery or Synod of this Church ſhall decline to comply with the Sentences of the Commiſſion, or to give the ſame a full Execution; in that Caſe the Commiſſion is hereby prohibited to execute the ſame, by appointing any ſuch correſpondent Meetings, as has been ſometimes the Practice, but ſhall allow the ſame to ly over to the enſuing Aſſembly, to which ſuch Presbyteries or Synods ſhall be anſwerable for ſuch their Conduct, and are hereby appointed to ſend up with their Commiſſioners their Reaſons for the ſame. And the Aſſembly doth further impower and direct the ſaid Commiſſion to make due Application to the King and Parliament for Redreſs of the Grievance of Patronage, in caſe a favourable Opportunity for ſo doing ſhall occur, during the Subſiſtence of this Commiſſion. And the General Aſſembly do enjoin their Commiſſion, that in paſſing their Sentences, and in ordering the Execution of the ſame, they ſtrictly obſerve the 12th Act of the Aſſembly 1736.

## VII.

## *Act anent the more frequent Celebration of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.*

Edinburgh, May 20th 1751. *Seſſ. ult.*

THE General Aſſembly renews Act 11. Aſſembly 1712, appointing the more frequent Celebration of our Lord's Supper; and in order to the better Obſervance of the ſaid Act, every Preſbytery, at their privy Cenſures before the Winter Synod, are hereby appointed to inquire at each of their Brethren, whether they have adminiſtred that Sacrament, once at leaſt, the preceeding Year, and in caſe any of

of them have not done it, their Excuſes ſhall be marked in the Minutes, and what the Presbytery has done in Approbation or Diſapprobation thereof, and report the ſame in writing to the Synod; and in caſe of the Abſence of any Member of the Presbytery from the Diet for privy Cenſures, ſuch Member ſhall ſendup his Excuſe in Writing, either to that Diet, or to the next enſuing Synod; and in the Event of Brethrens failling in both the before mentioned Injunctions, it is hereby appointed, that the Presbytery next after the Synod ſhall call ſuch Brethren to an Account, and report to the next Synod, that they may do therein as they ſhall ſee Cauſe.

## VIII.

## *Act appointing the Diet of the next General Aſſembly.*

Edinburgh, May 20*th* 1751. *Seſſ. ult.*

THE next General Aſſembly of this National Church is appointed to be held in this Place, upon the ſecond *Thurſday* of *May* next, being the 14th Day of that Month, in the Year 1752.

*Collected and extracted from the Records of the General Aſſembly by*
GEORGE WISHART, *Cls. Eccl. Scot.*

## *Overture about the Pſalmody.*

Edinburgh, May 20th 1751. *Seſſ. ult.*

THE General Aſſembly finding, that ſeveral of the Presbyteries have not ſent up any Opinion to this Aſſembly concerning the Pſalmody, notwithſtanding a new Edition with Amendments of the Tranſlations and Paraphraſes of ſacred Scripture was tranſmitted to them, do again tranſmit the ſame, requiring ſuch Presbyteries as have hitherto been deficient, to ſend up their Opinions to the next Aſſembly; and in the mean Time, the Aſſembly recommends the ſaid Pſalmody to be uſed in private Families, and that Presbyteries be careful to have a ſufficient Number of Copies of the ſaid laſt Edition thereof, within their Bounds.

*Over-*

## *Overture about Licensing Probationers.*

Edinburgh, May 20th 1751. *Sess. ult.*

THE General Assembly, considering that several Presbyteries have not hitherto sent up their Opinions upon the Overture transmitted to them by the General Assembly 1749, about Licensing Probationers, and upon the Amendment thereto propoled, by the Assembly 1750, do again transmit the said Overture and Amendment to the Consideration of such Presbyteries, as have not reported their Opinions thereupon, that they may send the same to the next General Assembly.

## *Overture anent Presbyteries neglecting to send up their Opinions on the Overtures transmitted to them by the Assembly.*

Edinburgh, May 20th 1751. *Sess. ult.*

THE General Assembly, finding that a sufficient Number of Presbyteries have not yet sent up their Opinions upon the Overture transmitted to them by the General Assembly 1750, anent Presbyteries neglecting to send their Opinions on Overtures of the Assembly, do again remit to the several Presbyteries to consider what may be proper to be done in such Cases, where Presbyteries neglect to send their Opinions, and report to the next General Assembly.

## *Overture anent Processes against Probationers.*

Edinburgh, May 20th 1751. *Sess. ult.*

THE General Assembly do again transmit to Presbyteries the Overture of the Assembly, made in the Year 1748, about extending the Article of the Form of Process relating to Informations against Ministers, to Probationers, and do hereby require such Presbyteries as have not hitherto sent their Opinions formerly, that they transmit the same to the next General Assembly.

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OF THE

# Actings and Proceedings of the General Aſſembly of the Church of *Scotland*, held in the Year 1751, which are not printed at full Length.

AFTER Sermon, by the Rev. Mr. *George Wiſhart*, one of the Miniſters of *Edinburgh*, (the Moderators of the two preceeding Aſſemblies being at *London*, in conſequence of an Appointment and Commiſſion from the laſt General Aſſembly) the Miniſters and Ruling Elders, Members of this Aſſembly, did conveen, and the Reverend Mr. *John Lumſden*, Profeſſor of Divinity in the King's College of *Aberdeen*, began with Prayer. *May* 9th, *Seſſ.* 1.

A Proteſt ſigned by Mr. *Thomas Tullideph*, Principal of *St. Leonard's* College in *St. Andrews*, and Dr. *George Haddow*, Profeſſor of *Hebrew* in the New College, againſt receiving a Commiſſion by the Univerſity of *St. Andrews*, to Mr. *David Young*, Profeſſor of Philoſophy therein, or enrolling his Name, as a Member of the Aſſembly, until the Appeal taken from the Presbytery of *St. Andrews*, for atteſting the ſaid Commiſſion, be diſcuſſed, remitted to the Committee to be named for reviſing Commiſſions, and, in the mean time, Mr. *Young* was ordered to be enrolled as a Member. *Ibid.*

Mr. *James Mackie*, Miniſter at *St. Ninians*, being choſen Moderator, he, at the Aſſembly's Deſire, took the Chair. *Ibid.*

The King's Commiſſion to *Alexander* Earl of *Leven*, to repreſent His Majeſty's Royal Perſon in this Aſſembly, read and recorded. *Ibid.*

The King's moſt gracious Letter to this Aſſembly, read and recorded. *Ibid.*

The Commiſſioner's Speech at opening this Aſſembly, and the Moderator's Speech in return thereto. *Ibid.*

A Committee named to draw an Anſwer to the King's moſt gracious Letter. *Ibid.*

A Committee appointed to reviſe the Commiſſions to Members of this Aſſembly, cenſure Abſents from the Diets of this Aſſembly, name Miniſters to preach before his Grace

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the King's Commiſſioner, receive in Liſts of Probationers in the ſeveral Presbyteries, in order to their being recorded, and of Students in Divinity at the ſeveral Univerſities, and report. *Ibid.*

The King's Warrant for 1000 *l. Sterl.* as his Royal Bounty for encouraging itinerant Preachers and Catechiſts, in the *Highlands* and *Iſlands*, given in by His Majeſty's Commiſſioner, read and recorded. *Ibid.*

A Committee for Overtures named. *Ibid.*

A Committee for Bills, References and Appeals, named. *Ibid.*

A Diet ſpent in Prayer, *May* 10th, *Seſſ.* 2.

Miniſters named to preach before his Grace the King's Commiſſioner. *Ibid.*

The Act 7th of the Aſſembly 1718, for the better Diſpatch of the Buſineſs of Aſſembly, read, and the Obſervation thereof enjoined. *Ibid.*

The Draught of an Anſwer to the King's moſt gracious Letter to this Aſſembly, brought in and approven, and his Grace the Commiſſioner undertakes to tranſmit the ſame to His Majeſty. *May* 11th, *Seſſ.* 3.

A Committee of Perſons in each Synod appointed to reviſe the Regiſter of the Actings and Proceedings of the Commiſſion of the late General Aſſembly, audit the Procurator and Agents for the Church their Accompts, conſider the State of the Church's publick Money, and prepare Overtures about the ſame, agreeable to the 7th Act of the General Aſſembly 1712, and 8th Act of Aſſembly 1719; and all Petitions and other Claims for any Part of the ſaid Money, ordered to be laid before the ſaid Committee; and they were alſo appointed to prepare any Overtures or References made by the late Commiſſion to this Aſſembly. *Ibid.*

A Committee appointed to reviſe the Regiſter of the Committee named by the laſt Aſſembly, for managing the Royal Bounty for Reformation of the *Highlands* and *Iſlands*. *Ibid.*

A Committee named for reviſing the Synod Books of *Merſe* and *Teviotdale*, *Glaſgow* and *Air*, *Fife*, *Aberdeen*, *Moray*, *Lothian* and *Tweeddale*. *Ibid.*

A Committee named to reviſe the Synod Book of *Sutherland* and *Caithneſs*, with the Remarks made thereon by the Committee of laſt Aſſembly. *Ibid.*

The Synod Books of *Dumfries*, *Galloway*, *Perth* and *Stirling*, *Angus* and *Mearns*, *Argyle*, *Roſs*, *Glenelg*, *Orkney*, and Presbytery Book of *Zetland*, abſent, and reſolved that the Reaſons thereof be inquired into. *Ibid.*

The Committee for Overtures, appointed to receive the Inſtructions from the ſeveral Presbyteries and Synods, conſider the ſame, and report. *Ibid.*

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The Report of the Committee for reviſing Commiſſions, with the Opinion of the Committee for Overtures thereon, brought in and read, bearing, that the Commiſſion from the Presbytery of *Selkirk* is dated the 26th of *February*, which is more than one Month preceeding the firſt of the 40 Days before the Meeting of the Aſſembly: That the Commiſſion from the Burgh of *Inverary* is dated the 16th of *April*; and that the Commiſſion from the King's College of *Aberdeen* is dated the 28th of *April*, both which are within the 40 Days preceeding the Aſſembly's Meeting: That the Commiſſion from the Presbytery of *Inverneſs* has no Elder; and therefore, that Presbytery was not fully repreſented. The Opinion of the Committee for Overtures, upon the ſaid Report agreed to, bearing, that the Commiſſion from the King's College of *Aberdeen* be ſuſtained, in reſpect the Election was on the 28th of *March*, tho' *April* was inſert by Miſtake in the tranſcribing; and that the Commiſſioners from the Presbyteries of *Selkirk* and *Inverneſs*, and Burgh of *Inverary*, ſhould be appointed to attend the next Meeting of the Committee for Overtures. *Ibid.*

An Appeal by Principal *Tullideph* and his Adherents, from a Sentence of the Presbytery of *St. Andrews*, granting their Atteſtation to a Commiſſion from the Univerſity of *St. Andrews*, to Mr. *David Young*, Profeſſor of Philoſophy, to repreſent the ſaid Univerſity in this Aſſembly, read, and a Committee appointed to prepare and bring in an Overture, to accommodate Differences among all Parties concerned. *Ibid.*

A Committee appointed to conſider, how far it is proper that any who are Members of the Court ſhould appear as Procurators in any Cauſe, and bring in a Report on *Tueſday* next. *Ibid.*

A Committee appointed to conſider a Petition of Mr. *John Smith*, Miniſter at *Kincardine*, reſpecting the employing a Preacher at *Norriſtoun* in the ſaid Pariſh, upon a Plan agreed upon betwixt the Presbytery and the Heretors; and another Application of the ſaid Mr. *John Smith*, about the applying Part of the Intereſt of the Fund collected for *Norriſtoun*, towards the Maintenance of a School-maſter there. *Ibid.*

A Letter produced by Mr. *John Gowdie*, Profeſſor of Divinity in the Univerſity of *Edinburgh*, from Mr. *Robert Patoun*, Dr. *Patrick Cuming*, Mr. *William Steel*, Miniſters, and Mr. *David Dalrymple* Ruling Elder, Commiſſioners from the laſt General Aſſembly, now at *London*, read, containing an Account of their Proceedings at *London*, in the Execution of the Commiſſion and Inſtructions given to them by the ſaid Aſſembly, with the Cauſes of their droping the laſt Article, about raiſing the Minimum of Stipends in *Scotland*, and the preſent Situation of their Caſe now depending in the Houſe of Commons, before whom their Petition, with another Petiti-

on for thoſe in the Oppoſition, are now lying, and a Proof is leading before a Committee of that Honourable Houſe, of the Facts ſet forth in both theſe Petitions, and the Aſſembly appointed a Committee, to conſider the ſame, and report an Opinion thereupon to the Aſſembly at their Meeting To-morrow Morning. *May* 13. *Seſſ.* 4.

A Letter from the ſaid Mr. *Robert Patoun*, with an Order from the Privy Council, directing, "That henceforth "every Miniſter and Preacher ſhall, in his reſpective "Church, Congregation or Aſſembly, pray in expreſs "Words for *His Moſt Sacred Majeſty King* George, "*their Royal Highneſſes*, George *Prince of* Wales, "*the Princeſs Dowager of* Wales, *the Duke, the* "*Princeſſes, and all the Royal Family*," together with a Letter directed to the ſaid Mr. *Robert Patoun* from the Clerk of the Council, deſiring him to communicate the ſaid Order in ſuch Manner, as that due Obedience may be paid to it, read, and all due Obedience to the foreſaid Order of Privy Council recommended. *Ibid.*

A Sentence of the Synod of *Fife*, affirming a Judgment of the Presbytery of *Coupar*, ſuſtaining a Call by the Pariſh of *Logie*, to Mr. *Samuel Weſt* Probationer, to be their Miniſter, affirmed, and the ſaid Presbytery appointed furthwith to proceed to the Ordination and Settlement of the ſaid Mr. *Weſt*, as Miniſter of the Pariſh of *Logie*, (his Trials having been taken, and Edict returned without any Objection.) *Ibid.*

A Committee appointed to conſider a Petition of the Miniſter and Kirk-ſeſſion of *St. Ninians*, with reſpect to ſome Diſturbances they have met with from certain Heretors in the Pariſh, in the Management of the Poors Funds, with a Repreſentation and Overture relative thereto, and all Inſtructions from Presbyteries or Synods, with reſpect to the Power of Kirk-ſeſſions, in the Diſpoſal of the Collections and other Funds for Maintenance of the Poor, and to report their Opinion upon the whole to the Aſſembly as ſoon as they can. *Ibid.*

The Committee, appointed laſt Meeting to conſider the Letter from the Commiſſioners of the laſt General Aſſembly, not having agreed upon any Report, the ſaid Letter was again read over, and the Moderator was appointed to write to the ſaid Commiſſioners, inſtructing them to carry on the Petition, which they preſented to the Honourable Houſe of Commons, and to bring the ſame to as comfortable an Iſſue as they can, and, at the ſame time, to uſe their utmoſt Endeavours to prevent the adding any Clauſe to a Bill, which may be brought in upon the ſaid Petition, or to any other Bill, which may be detrimental to the Intereſts and Concerns of this Church, and particularly any Clauſe, which may extend, or further enforce the Law of Patronages, to employ Council to be heard

heard againſt any ſuch Clauſe, and to apply to Parliament for that Effect, as they ſhall be adviſed, or think proper. and reſolved that a Committee be named to correſpond with the ſaid Commiſſioners to Parliament, *May* 14. *Seſſ.* 5.

The Clerks authoriſed to give out Extracts, one or more, of the Letter from the ſaid Commiſſioners, with the Minute of Yeſterday's Diet relative thereto. *Ibid.*

A Committee appointed to correſpond with the ſaid Commiſſioners at *London*, and a Committee nominated to prepare a Draught of the Powers to be given to the ſaid Committee of Correſpondents. *Ibid.*

A Letter from Mr. *William Steel* Miniſter at *Sorn*, one of the ſaid Commiſſioners, containing his Excuſe for leaving *London*, in reſpect of the declining State of his Health, and the Affliction of his Family at home, produced and read, and his Excuſe ſuſtained. *Ibid.*

The Committee for Bills impowered to receive and tranſmit to the Aſſembly any Reference or Appeal that may be laid before them from the Presbytery of *Edinburgh*, anent the Tranſportaion of Mr. *David Moubray* from *Currie* to *Liberton*, to the End the Aſſembly may judge in it themſelves, or refer the ſame to their Commiſſion. *Ibid.*

Two ſeveral Petitions, the one for Mr. *Robert Dalrymple* Miniſter at *Dollas*, containing ſeveral Grievances he labours under by the Want of his Stipend, the Expence he has been put to in carrying on a Proceſs of Augmentation thereof, and Diſturbances he meets with from Sir *Robert Gordon* of *Gordonſtoun*, and his Tenants, in the Poſſeſſion of his Manſe and Glebe, *&c.* the other by the Preſbytery of *Meigle*, in behalf of Mr. *Lawrence Brown* Miniſter at *Lentrathen*, who is purſued before the Commiſſary of *St. Andrews* by *David Ogilvie* of *Pool*, read, and a Committee appointed to conſider the ſame, with all Papers relative to the Application from the Presbytery of *Meigle*, and prepare an Overture with reſpect to each of the ſaid Petitions. *Ibid.*

A Letter from the Presbytery of *Tong*, reſpecting the Stipends of three of their Number, which depend on a Fund ariſing from a publick Collection of 1500 *l. Sterl.* of Principal, and which Stipends had ſuffered a conſiderable Diminution from the ſaid Funds, being lately lent out at 4 1-half *per Cent.* inſtead of 5, *per Cent*, which was formerly paid for it, read, and the Conſideration thereof, and of what may be propoſed for Relief of theſe Brethren, referred to a Committee. *Ibid.*

Act anent Lawiers, who are Members of Court, appearing as Procurators in any Cauſes before the Aſſemblies or Commiſſions. *Ibid.*

A Reference from the Synod of *Lothian* and *Tweeddale*, upon a Complaint given in to them, in Name of the Right Honourable the Lord *Torphichen*, Patron of the Pariſh of *Tor-*

*Torphichen*, and other Heretors of the ſaid Pariſh, Callers of Mr. *James Watſon* Probationer, againſt the Preſbytery of *Linlithgow*, for not obeying a Sentence of the laſt General Aſſembly, appointing them to ordain and admit the ſaid Mr. *Watſon*, as Miniſter of *Torphichen*, heard, and the Aſſembly reſolved that the ſaid Presbytery be rebuked for their Offence, in not obeying the Sentences of the two laſt General Aſſemblies, from which Reſolution a Diſſent is entered by certain Members of the Aſſembly. After which the ſaid Presbytery were rebuked accordingly, and enjoined, in Concurrence with a Committee named, to meet at the Church of *Torphichen*, upon *Thurſday* the 30th Day of *May* current, and then and there to ordain and admit the ſaid Mr. *James Watſon*, as Miniſter of the Pariſh of *Torphichen*; but in caſe the Presbytery ſhould again fail in their Duty, and not be preſent at the Meeting for the Ordination, or ſhould refuſe to concur therein, the Committee are to proceed by themſelves to Mr. *Watſon*'s Ordination and Admiſſion: The Moderator of the ſaid Presbytery enjoined to call a Meeting of Presbytery, who ſhall appoint one to preach at *Torphichen* on any of the two next Lord's Days, and the Perſon ſo appointed, to intimate from the Pulpit the Meeting for the Ordination. *Ibid.*

A Committee appointed to conſider a Reference from the Presbytery of *Edinburgh* to the Aſſembly for their Advice, whether or not the Miniſter of the Caſtle of *Edinburgh* ſhould be received a Member of the ſaid Presbytery, prepare an Opinion thereupon, and report the ſame to the Aſſembly. *May* 16th Seſſ. 7.

Report of the Viſitors of the Commiſſion Book brought in, the Commiſſion's Conduct approved of, and their Book ordered to be atteſted. *Ibid.*

All Affairs referred by the laſt Aſſembly to their Commiſſion, and not diſcuſſed by them, referred to the Commiſſion to be named by the Aſſembly, *viz.* an Appeal of Mr. *James Ker* Miniſter at *Dun*, from a Sentence of the Synod of *Angus* and *Mearns*, diſmiſſing a Proceſs at his Inſtance, againſt two Elders of the ſaid Pariſh of *Dun*: An Appeal of *James Watſon* Merchant in *Glaſgow*, and *Mary Falla* his Spouſe: An Apeal of *Matthew Allan* Merchant in *Moffat*: An Appeal of Mr. *Neil Beton*: A Reference of the Synod of *Lothian* and *Tweeddale* about *Michael Bell*: Appeals of *Thomas Simpſon*, *Peter* and *Robert Irvine*, *David Johnſton*, *John MacTaggart* and his Spouſe, *John Ferrier*, *Francis Riddel*, *Quintin Dick*, and *David MacMurtrie*. *Ibid.*

An Overture tranſmitted by the Commiſſion of the laſt General Aſſembly anent unqualified Patrons diſponing their Rights of Patronage, for a ſingle Vice, or during their Lives only, to Perſons in whom they can place Truſt, read,

read, and ordered to lye upon the Table till the next General Aſſembly. *Ibid.*

Recommendation to the Committee to be named for managing his Majeſty's Royal Bounty for Reformation of the Highlands and Iſlands, to make Application, as they have Opportunity, for having the ſaid Bounty employed to the Purpoſe of new Erections, and to proceed with all due Diligence in forwarding that Matter. *Ibid.*

A Committee appointed to reviſe an Accompt by *James Farquharſon* of *Invercauld*, Eſq; and others, Heretors of the Pariſh of *Glenmuck*, anent the Application of a certain Sum of Money collected ſome Years ago in virtue of an Act of Aſſembly, towards building a Bridge over *Dee*; but by an after Act of Aſſembly, ordered to be applied for building Bridges over the Waters of *Muck* and *Garron*, and for the due Application whereof, the ſaid Heretors had granted their Bond. *Ibid.*

The Members from the Presbyteries within the ſeveral Synods appointed to meet among themſelves, in order to bring in the Nominators of the Commiſſion of this Aſſembly, according to the 6th Act of Aſſembly 1705. *Ibid.*

A Sentence of the Synod of *Angus* and *Mearns*, ſuſtaining and concurring with a Call by the Town and Pariſh of *Dundee*, to Mr. *Gerſhom Carmichael* Miniſter at *Monnymail*, to be one of the Miniſters of *Dundee*, affirmed, and the Presbytery of *Dundee* appointed to proſecute his Tranſportation from the Pariſh of *Monnymail*, and to take the moſt proper Meaſures to have him admitted and ſettled Miniſter at *Dundee* with all convenient Diſpatch, according to the Rules of the Church. *Ibid.*

The Commiſſion impowered to take in, and finally determine any Queſtions that may be brought before them by Reference or Appeal, reſpecting the Tranſportation of Mr. *Gerſhom Carmichael* from the Pariſh of *Monnymail*, and his Settlement as Miniſter of *Dundee*. *Ibid.*

An Appeal in Name of his Grace the Duke of *Queensberry* and *Dover*, Patron, and other Heretors of the Pariſh of *Terreagles* who had concurred with the Preſentation, and afterwards ſigned a Call to the Reverend Mr. *George Herron* Miniſter of the Goſpel at Iſland *Magee* in *Ireland*, to be Miniſter of the ſaid Pariſh of *Terreagles*, from a Sentence of the Synod of *Dumfries*, delaying to judge in a Reference made to them by the Presbytery of *Dumfries* anent the ſaid Settlement, read, and the Affair remitted to the ſaid Presbytery of *Dumfries*, with a Recommendation to them to proceed therein with all convenient Diſpatch: And the Commiſſion is impowered, at any Diet after the next Meeting of the Synod of *Dumfries*, to judge and finally determine in any Reſerences or Appeals that may be made to them in relation to that Settlement. *Ibid.*

Reſolution to take in a Diſſent and Complaint of Mr. *John Fullarton* and others, againſt the Conduct of the Preſbytery of *Irvine*, relating to a Preſentation given by the Earl of *Eglengton* to Mr. *Charles Bannatyne* to be *Miniſter* of *Irvine*. *ibid.*

The Committee named to conſider the Petitions for Mr. *Robert Dalrymple*, and Presbytery of *Meigle*, appointed to conſider a Reference by the Synod of *Dumfries*, of a Queſtion brought before them, betwixt Mr. *James Hogg* Miniſter at *Kirkbean* and Mr. *William Stewart* late Miniſter there, together with an Appeal taken by Mr. *Hogg* from that and other Sentences and Proceedings of the ſaid Synod, and that it be the Subject of the Committee's Deliberation, how far it is proper this Matter ſhould come under the Conſideration of the Aſſembly. *Ibid.*

The Report of the Truſtees appointed by Act of Parliament for managing the Fund for a Proviſion to Miniſters Widows, *&c.* produced, and ordered to lye on the Table till another Diet. *May* 17. Seſſ. 8.

A Liſt of Members from the ſeveral Synods brought in, and appointed as a Committee to draw the Commiſſion and Inſtructions, and name the Members of the Commiſſion of this Aſſembly. *Ibid.*

The Report of the Committee appointed to conſider the Affair betwixt Meſſrs. *Hogg* and *Stewart* brought in, and delayed. *Ibid.*

A Reference from the Synod of *Dumfries* of a Cauſe brought before them, by Appeal from a Sentence of the Presbytery of *Lochmaben*, refuſing to tranſport Mr. *David Imrie* Miniſter at *Dalton*, to be Miniſter of the Pariſh of *St. Mungo*, heard, the ſaid Sentence reverſed, and Mr. *Imrie* tranſported from the Pariſh of *Dalton* to the Pariſh of *St. Mungo*, and the Presbytery of *Lochmaben* appointed to admit him as Miniſter of the ſaid Pariſh on the 20th Day of *June* next, the Moderator of the Preſbytery, for the Time being, to preach at his Admiſſion, and the Church of *Dalton* to be declared vacant the Sabbath thereafter. *Ibid.*

The Sentences of the Presbytery of *Chanonry*, and Synod of *Roſs*, ſuſtaining a Call by the Heretors and Elders of the Pariſh of *Cromartie* to Mr. *James Robertſon* Probationer, to be their Miniſter, affirmed, and the ſaid Presbytery appointed to proceed to his Trials and Settlement as Miniſter of that Pariſh with all convenient Speed, according to the Rules of the Church. *Ibid.*

A Committee appointed to conſider a Petition and Complaint of Mr. *John Sutherland* Miniſter at *Golſpie*, and others, againſt the Synod of *Sutherland* and *Caithneſs*. *Ibid.*

The Commiſſion inſtructed and impowered to cognoſce and finally determine in any Queſtion that ſhall be regularly brought before them, about the Settlement of the Pariſh of *St. Mungo*. *May* 18th *Seſſ.* 9.

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The Reaſons of the Diſſent entered on *Wedneſday* laſt from the Sentence then paſt, appointing the Presbytery of *Linlithgow* to be cenſured, given in, in writing, and ordered to be kept in *retentis*. *ibid.*

The Report of the Truſtees for managing the Fund for a Proviſion to Miniſters Widows, *&c.* reproduced, containing a State of the Fund under their Management, and an Account of their Proceedings, ſince laſt General Aſſembly, and ordered to be recorded in the ſeperate Regiſter kept for that Purpoſe. *ibid.*

The Report of the Viſitors of the Regiſter of the Committee appointed by laſt Aſſembly, for managing the Royal Bounty, for Reformation of the Highlands, *&c.* brought in, the Remarks made thereon remitted to the Committee, to be named for managing the Royal Bounty this Year. The Itinerant Preacher at *Fortauguſtus*, appointed to preach, ſometimes at *Glenmoriſon*, and the ſaid Regiſter ordered to be atteſted. *ibid.*

The Draught of a Commiſſion to the Committee for managing the Royal Bounty for this Year, brought in and approven. *ibid.*

The Report of the Committee for naming the Members of the Commiſſion, and drawing Inſtructions to them, brought in and approven. *ibid.*

The Commiſſion impowered to cognoſce and finally determine in any Reference or Appeal, that ſhall be brought before them, concerning the Tranſportation of Mr. *Andrew Richardſon* from *Broughton*; or his Admiſſion at *Inverkeithing*. *ibid*,

The Report of the Committee named on *Thurſday* laſt, to conſider the Reference from the Presbytery of *Edinburgh*, for Advice with reſpect to the receiving the Miniſter of the Caſtle of *Edinburgh*, as a Member of the Presbytery, brought in, containing an Overture, that the Aſſembly adviſe the Presbytery of *Edinburgh* to receive and admit Mr. *John Johnſton* Miniſter of the Caſtle of *Edinburgh*, to be a Member of the ſaid Preſbytery; and the Aſſembly not having Time to conſider the ſame, ordered, that it be ſignified to the Presbytery of *Edinburgh*, that a Committee of the Aſſembly had given their Opinion above mentioned, which the Presbytery may have under their Conſideration, and follow it or not as they ſee Cauſe. *ibid*,

The Report and Opinion of the Committee named to conſider the Appeal from the Sentence of the Synod of *Sutherland* and *Caithneſs*, relative to the Diets of publick Worſhip, at the time of celebrating the Lord's Supper, and cenſuring the Elders and other Petitioners to them upon that Subject; brought in, read, and approven as follows, *viz.* The General Aſſembly judge, that this Affair is not ripe for a Deciſion, and in the mean Time declare they cannot approve of the Judgment

ment of the Synod of *Sutherland* and *Caithneſs*, cenſuring the Elders and other Petitioners, requeſting the Synod to continue the faſt Day, before the Sacrament, on Thurſday as formerly, and therefore Diſcharge the Intimation of that Cenſure, and recommend it to all the Miniſters in the Bounds of that Synod to ſhew all Tenderneſs to the Sentiments of the Elders and other well diſpoſed People under their Charge, and to ſtudy to preſerve Unity and brotherly Love with one another, and further recommend it to all the People to behave regularly and quietly, and ſhew all Regard to their Miniſters; and Judge it inexpedient for that Synod, or the Presbyteries within their Bounds, to appoint any general Alteration of the Diets of publick Worſhip at ſuch ſolemn Occaſions, till that Matter is taken under the Conſideration of the General Aſſembly. *ibid.*

The Opinion of the Committee named to conſider the Caſe of Mr. *Lawrence Brown*, bearing that the Procurator and Agents for the Church be appointed to defend and ſupport him, approven, and a Recommendation to the Synod of *Angus* and *Mearns* to give what Aſſiſtance they can. *ibid.*

The Procurator and Agents for the Church appointed to take the Management of the Proceſs for Augmentation to the Stipend of the Miniſter of *Dollas*, and alſo that he be aſſiſted out of the publick Funds, in any Proceſs before the Court of Seſſion, or Sheriff Court, anent recovering his Glebe and Fuel. *ibid.*

A Reference from the Synod of *Lothian* and *Tweeddale*, of a Cauſe brought before them by Appeal from the Preſbytery of *Biggar*'s Sentence in the Settlement of the Pariſh of *Biggar*, pronounced in April laſt, *viz.* That, in the preſent Circumſtances, they could not proceed to the Settlement of Mr. *William Haig* the Preſentee, and that the Honourable Patrons be applied to, to eaſe the Presbytery in this Matter, read, and it being repreſented, that there was no Concurrence with the Preſentation, of any who reſide in the Pariſh, ſave one, the Aſſembly found, that in the preſent Circumſtances it is not expedient to appoint the Settlement of the Preſentee, and remitted to the Presbytery of *Biggar* to deal with all concerned in order to bring about a comfortable Settlement of the ſaid Pariſh. *ibid.*

The Accompts of the Agents and Printers for the Church, and an Account of Stationary Wares, with the Report of the Committee, who reviſed the ſame, brought in, and ordered to ly on the Table to be peruſed by Members. *ibid.*

The Commiſſion impowered to take in and examine the Procurator for the Church his Accompts of the Church's publick

publick Money, and paſs the ſame as they ſee Cauſe, *ibid.*
A Complaint of certain Members of the Presbytery of *Irvine*, Diſſenters from a Judgment of the ſaid Presbytery, declaring themſelves ſatisfied with a Letter from the Earl of *Eglingtoun*, Patron of the Pariſh Church of *Irvine*, reſpecting a Preſentation granted by his Lordſhip to Mr *Charles Bannantine*, Miniſter at *Kilmorie* in *Arran* to be Miniſter at *Irvine*, diſmiſſed. *ibid.*
The Inſtructions given by the laſt General Aſſembly to their Committee named to correſpond with their Commiſſioners at *London*, appointed to ſtand as Inſtructions to the Committee named by this Aſſembly, to correſpond with the ſaid Commiſſioners, *ibid.*
The Deſire of Principal *Wiſhart* and others, Diſſenters from the Sentence of the Aſſembly, cenſuring the Preſbytery of *Linlithgow*, that they might be allowed to read the Reaſons of their Diſſent given in laſt Meeting, refuſed, in reſpect that at a former Diet theſe Reaſons were ordered to ly in retentis, *May 20th, Seſs. ult.*
The Report of the Committee appointed to conſider the Repreſentation from the Kirk Seſſion of *St. Ninians*, and other Repreſentations or Inſtructions relating to the Power of Kirk Seſſions, in the management of the Poors Money, brought in, and the Aſſembly recommended to the Miniſters of each Pariſh to deal with their Heretors, to ſet about the Maintenance of their Poor, reſpectively, and the repreſſing vagrant and idle Perſons and Vagabonds, and to Presbyteries to apply to the Sheriffs of the ſeveral Shires, within which their Presbytery Seats do ly, to put the Laws with reſpect to the Maintenance of the Poor, and repreſſing vagrant Perſons and Vagabonds, to due Execution. The Kirk Seſſion of *St. Ninians*, at their firſt Meeting, authoriſed to make a Minute, ordering the Minute inſert in their Records by the Heretors of St. *Ninians*, bearing, *that theſe were the Books produced by the Seſſion Clerk of* St. Ninians *to the General Meeting of the Heretors of that Pariſh, to whith their Minute related*, to be expunged out of their ſaid Books, and in caſe any unreaſonable Proceſs ſhall be brought by the Heretors againſt the Miniſter and Kirk Seſſion of *St. Ninians*, it is recommended to the Procurator and Agents for the Church to attend to the ſame, and any other Cauſe of the like Nature, as being of publick Concern. The Miniſter and Kirk Seſſion of *St. Ninians* allowed to apply to the Neighbouring Synods, who have Pariſhes in the like Circumſtances for voluntary Contributions, at their ſeveral Pariſh Church Doors, for defraying the Expence of ſuch Proceſſes, and the Commiſſion is impowered to conſi-

der what may be further neceſsary in this Matter, and report to the next Aſsembly. *ibid.*

The Report and Opinion of the Committee appointed to conſider the Petition of Mr. *John Smith* Miniſter at *Kincardine*, reſpecting the Employin a Preacher at *Norriſtoun*, brought in and approven; and the Sum of 600 Merks of the Fund belonging to *Norriſtoun* allowed for a Preacher yearly, to be ſent there as Aſſiſtant to the Miniſter of *Kincardine*, which Preacher is to continue in that Station till he ſhall think fit to remove; and his ſaid Allowance to commence from *Whitſunday* 1751. *Ibid.*

The Report of the foreſaid Committee reſpecting the Employing a Schoolmaſter at *Norriſtoun* brought in and read, and the Sum of 100 *l. Scots* of the Intereſt of the ſaid Fund allowed to be paid yearly to a Schoolmaſter to be employed there, under the Inſpection of the Miniſter of *Kincardine*. *Ibid.*

The Report of the Committee appointed to examine the Accompts of *James Farquharſon* of *Invercauld*, and other Heritors of the Pariſh of *Glenmuck*, anent the Money lodged in their Hands, for building Bridges over the Waters of *Muck* and *Garron*, for the due Application whereof the ſaid Heretors had granted Bond, brought in and approven, and the foreſaid Bond ordered to be delivered up, upon Payment of the Balance of 33 *l.* 13 *s. Scots*, or giving a new Obligation for the Application of the ſame. *Ibid.*

The Commiſſion impowered to cognoſce and finally determine in any Reference or Appeal that ſhall be brought before them from the Synod of *Fife*, with reſpect to the Sentence of Depoſition paſt by the Presbytery of *St. Andrews*, againſt *John Duncan* Tenant in *Cauſeway-Head*, and one of the Elders of the Pariſh of *Forgan*. *Ibid.*

The Report of the Committee appointed to conſider the Affair relating to Mr. *James Hogg* Miniſter at *Kirkbean*, and Mr. *William Stewart* late Miniſter there, brought in and read, and their Opinion, that it is not competent for the Aſſembly to judge in that Cauſe, the ſame being a Matter of Civil Right, approven. *Ibid.*

The Report of the Committee for reviſing the Commiſſion Book, reſpecting the Summons executed by Order of the Commiſſion, againſt the Elders in the Presbytery of *Perth*, for their Diſobedience to the Sentences of the laſt Aſſembly and Commiſſion, appointing the Presbytery of *Perth* to admit Mr. *James Oſwald* as Miniſter of the Pariſh of *Methven*, brought in, and their Opinion, that in reſpect of the peculiar Circumſtances of this Caſe, there ſhould be no further Proceſs againſt theſe Elders, approven, and the Affair diſmiſſed. *Ibid.*

Act

Act approving the Accompts of *Robert MacIntosh* Agent for the Church, and Subclerk to the General Assembly, and appointing that he have Credit in his next Accompt, for the Balance of 29 *l.* 10 *s.* 11 ½ *d. Sterl.* due to him. *Ibid.*

Act approving the Accompts of *John, Baillie* Conjunct Agent for the Church, and appointing, that he have Credit in his next Accompt for the Balance of 19 *l.* 6 *s.* 5 *d. Sterl.* due to him. *Ibid.*

Order for Payment of an Accompt due to the Printers for the Church, amounting to 11 *l.* 18 *s.* 2 *d. Sterl. Ibid.*

Order for Payment of an Accompt of Stationary Wares furnished for the Use of the Church, amounting to 8 *l.* 2 *s.* 1 *d. Ibid.*

The Report of the Committee on the Publick Accompts brought in and referred to the Commission, together with a Claim from the Commissioners from the Presbytery of *Zetland* for a Viaticum. *Ibid.*

The Procurator and Agents for the Church appointed to appear in their Stations, at the Publick Expence, and oppose the Reduction of a Bond granted by the Magistrates of *Linlithgow* for 650 Merks, towards the Support of a second Minister in that Town and Parish. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commission to consider an Overture from the Synod of *Glasgow* and *Air*, respecting the disorderly Practices of *Clandestine* Marriages, and the bad Consequences thereof, and to do what they can to prevent such Practices. *Ibid.*

Act anent the more frequent Celebration of the Sacrament of the LORD's Supper. *Ibid.*

The Committee appointed to consider the Letter from the Presbytery of *Tong*, anent the 1500 *l.* lent to the Trustees for the late Lord *Reay*, at Four and one Half *per Cent.* having made no Report thereon, the Procurator and Agents for the Church appointed to enquire, if one or more good Hands can be got, who will take that Money at Five *per Cent.* and report to the Commission; and the Commission impowered to uplift and lend out the same accordingly. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commission to take under Consideration an Account concerning the State and Increase of Popery in some Parishes in the Bounds of the Presbytery of *Dumfries*, and to do therein as they see Cause. *Ibid.*

Overture about the Psalmody. *Ibid.*

Overture anent Presbyteries neglecting to send their Opinions on the Overtures transmitted to them by the Assembly. *Ibid.*

Overture about licensing Probationers. *Ibid.*

Overture about Processes against Probationers. *Ibid.*

The Synod Books of *Merse*, and *Teviotdale*, *Fife*, *Aberdeen*, *Moray*, *Glasgow* and *Air*, *Sutherland* and *Caithness*, *Lothian* and *Tweeddale*, attested. *Ibid.*

The

The Synod Books of *Dumfries Galloway*, *Argyle*, *Perth* and *Stirling*, *Angus* and *Mearns*, *Ross*, *Glenelg* and *Orkney*, and the Presbytery Book of *Zetland*, not being produced, are appointed to be brought up to the next Assembly. *Ibid.*

Recommendation to all Synods to take care, that Presbyteries be exact in keeping their separate Registers. *Ibid.*

Protestation admitted at the Instance of the Presbytery of *Brechin*, against Mr. *George Aitkin* Minister at *Montrose*, for not insisting in a Dissent and Complaint entered by him, against the said Presbytery's Sentence, appointing a Meeting to be held on the 9th of *May* current, for moderating in a Call, to Mr. *David Ferguson* to be Assistant Minister in the Parish of *Farnwell*, and the said Dissent and Complaint declared to be deserted and fallen from. *Ibid.*

List of Probationers in the Bounds of thirty four Prebyteries produced, amounting to One hundred and twenty five, and ordered to be recorded. *Ibid.*

The Minutes of this Sederunt were read, the Minutes of former Sederunts being read at the Diets subsequent to each Sederunt. *Ibid.*

A Committee appointed to revise the Minutes of this Assembly's Proceedings, at this and all the other Diets thereof, and to pitch out such of the Acts of this Assembly as are to be standing Rules, or are of publick Use, in order to be printed. *Ibid.*

The Moderator's Speech to the Assembly, and his Majesty's Commissioner. *Ibid.*

The Lord Commissioner's Speech in Return thereto; and then the Assembly was concluded. *Ibid.*

FINIS.